



STUDENT & FAMILY HANDBOOK

2025-2026



About the Student Handbook

This handbook is intended to provide students and parents with a guide to academic and program requirements. Please read and discuss with your students.

CEO's Message: Rick Watson, Ed.D.

Welcome to the Center for Advanced Research and Technology High School or better known as CART. I am pleased to share with you what it is like to work at CART or attend as a student.

At CART juniors and seniors from all high schools in both Clovis and Fresno Unified have an opportunity to attend. It is a unique and amazing experience to have students from all these high schools come together in one place to receive an outstanding college and career readiness experience. Students from all backgrounds and experiences are working alongside one another to explore an interest in one of CART's cutting-edge career labs. Labs taught by teams of career/technical education and academic teachers working together with industry partners to provide a hands-on, real-world, project-based experience.

I have the privilege of working alongside our teachers and support staff in providing these amazing experiences for our students every day. In addition, I get to experience our students building their deep academic knowledge through application and skills in the areas of collaboration, communication, creation, investigation, persistence and most importantly, confidence. All skills necessary for success in post high school, and in life.

CART students who have gone on to college and successful careers come back and share all the time how much they appreciated their CART experience and how it contributed towards their success. We are proud of these testimonials and invite you to check out the CART experience soon!

Rick Watson
Ed.D.-CEO/Principal

District Policies

The Fresno and Clovis Unified School Districts jointly run the CART program. Only students classified as junior or senior status enrolled in either Fresno or Clovis Unified School Districts are eligible to apply and attend CART.

The policies of each student's district, high school and CART apply while attending CART, CART activities, and traveling to and from CART and/or CART activities.

Important Contacts:		Important Dates:	
Address:	2555 Clovis Avenue Clovis, CA 93712	CART's First Day:	August 18, 2025
Office Hours:	7:00 am-4:30 pm	Back to School Night:	September 4, 2025
Attendance:	559.248.7400 (Clear Absences)	Winter Showcase Night:	January 15, 2026
Main Line:	559.248.7400	Senior Scholarship Night:	May 4, 2026
Fax Line:	559.248.7423	Grading periods:	September 26, 2025(CUSD) October 10, 2025 (FUSD) November 7, 2025 (BOTH) December 19, 2025 (BOTH) February 20, 2026 (BOTH) March 20, 2026 (FUSD) April 17, 2026 (BOTH) May 15, 2026 (Seniors) June 4, 2026 (Juniors)
Email:	kparker@cart.org	Last Day: CART Students	June 4, 2026
CART Schedule:	AM Classes: 7:45 am – 10:45 am PM Classes: 12:50 pm – 3:50 pm	Non-Student Days:	January 6 & 7, 2026

Family Guide To CART

Personal Responsibility

The Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART) is a professional learning environment. The CART staff create a rigorous academic environment alongside exhibiting career-related practices. CART strives to help develop in each student the personal character and values required for success in the world of college and career.

It is a privilege for students to attend CART. Students at CART have a greater degree of independence not afforded to them at the traditional high schools. To maintain this level of independence, CART students must self-regulate their behavior and assume adult responsibilities, which are meant to emulate the world of work.

Students who choose to take advantage of the independence afforded CART students, but do not assume the responsibilities associated with it, jeopardize the entire CART program. Students who violate CART and/or home school policies will be subject to appropriate behavioral consequences and may lose their privilege to continue attending CART.

What is CART?

The Center for Research and Technology (CART) is a college and career prep, half-day program for juniors and seniors in Clovis and Fresno Unified School Districts. CART combines rigorous academics with technology, design, entrepreneurial, and critical thinking skills.

How is the CART program different from my high school?

CART is just for juniors and seniors. Students choose a career-focused lab that offers integrated curriculum, project-based learning and features business and community involvement and the use of industry technology.

Curriculum:

What is Project-Based learning?

Project Based Learning is a teaching method in which students practice skills and gain knowledge through hands-on, relevant projects to investigate, solve and think critically surrounding a challenging question or problem.

CART Design Principles

Cognition	Promotion of learning and how to learn
Academics	Challenge students with meaningful and rigorous curriculum
Real-World Connections	Link students with community
Technology	Require students to use and apply office and career specific technology
Personalization	Mentor students through an educational journey

CTE

What is CTE?

Some of CART's courses are CTE/ROP courses. Career Technical Education (CTE) is an opportunity for high school learners to gain exposure and experience in careers and meet high school graduation requirements. Students collaborate with teachers and industry professionals to gain career-focused knowledge and skills. Many of the labs offer certifications, college credit, or work experience.

See the CART brochure for eligible labs:

- Certifications: Industry recognized certificates that are obtained through a performance task.
- Dual Enrollment/Unitrack: CART partners with local colleges/universities to provide college credit for students.
(Transcripts for these courses are available on each college's website)

The **CART Vision** is to create an environment where the students learn to use their minds well, to apply what they have learned in school to lifelong endeavors, to be technologically literate, and to develop the skills and self-confidence to succeed in a globally competitive workforce.

Mission Statement: In partnership with education, business, and community agencies the Center for Advanced Research and Technology will educate students/adults in a cross curricular, project-based environment that is academically rigorous and facilitated through a business based instructional model.

CART Facilities

The CART facility is a showcase for our community as well as business and industry partners. Visitors from all parts of the world come to CART to observe and learn about the innovative educational environment. Thus, it is important that we always represent ourselves well to our visitors and to the community.

We expect all students to do their part to keep the CART environment clean and free of trash. CART students always use blue recycling containers for bottles and cans. It is also important that we maintain the environment of the CART Gallery, Café area, and the restrooms. Please do your part to keep these areas clean and orderly.

Students involved in acts of vandalism to CART facilities and/or property will be liable for damages and may lose the privilege to continue attending CART.

At CART, we expect students to treat each other, the faculty, staff, administration, and every adult, with respect, courtesy, and cooperation. Furthermore, CART teachers will treat one another, the students, their families, and the administration in a courteous and respectful fashion. Consequences for engaging in discourteous behavior may include restoring the environment, meetings with staff and/or administrators, the development and implementation of a behavioral contract, removal of privileges, or further disciplinary action.

CART Community Spaces

Community members are incredibly supportive of and involved in CART and spend time with students to assist in projects. They often meet in common spaces around CART. CART's community spaces are areas where students communicate in positive, thoughtful, and respectful ways. These include labs, hallways, galleries, bathrooms, outside areas, and offsite locations where you are representing CART or your home school.

Examples of Behavior Expectations

Be present and engaged during class or field trips.
Follow lab rules for electronic devices and refrain from using them without teacher permission.
Be thoughtful of break area and workspace by cleaning up and recycling materials.
Do not use foul or offensive language.
Assist in helping set up and tear down during events.

Tips for Success

Professional Dress

-Students have professional dress days based on their lab activities. Please find a business casual outfit for presentations or events. *If assistance in finding an outfit is needed, please contact the lab teachers
-Students may also need to dress according for field trips, outings, or visits. Please follow the teacher's guidelines. Ex. An outing in the Environmental Lab may have different requirements than in the Marketing Lab.

Attendance

-Parent/Guardian should call both CART and home high school to report an absence.
-Students should email teachers to communicate their absence and request work.

Appointments & Vacations

-Appointments and other activities should be scheduled during non-school hours whenever possible. Likewise, CART requests that families schedule vacations during school holiday breaks as attendance is vital in a collaborative project-based environment. Specifically, the final project presentations that happen each semester are critical, as the students are working in teams that culminate in the student's project presentations upon which final grades are based.

-If your student must be excused for an appointment, please call the office in advance. 559 248-7400

- CART acknowledges the benefits of social media but encourages healthy use in the professional/educational environment. CART holds high expectations for its students, and in doing so expects students to have respect and integrity both in person and extending to online/social media behavior. Our goal is to create a real-world learning environment where phones and social media are not the primary captors of attention.

General Information:

Food:

For AM students all homeschool site cafeteria/food service locations are open early for CART students. For PM students, all students are released to have time to pick up school lunch. Food and beverages are also available for sale at CART. Please respect that all items must be consumed in the designated eating area. All trash must be placed in the proper trash or recycling containers prior to leaving the Gallery or Café area.

Please respect posted signs indicating areas where **no food or drink is allowed such as in lab areas, the theater, or in proximity of any computer equipment.**

Transportation:

Bus Transportation

Transportation is provided for all students to and from each comprehensive school site. (See schedule on CART website & both district websites).

Work-based Learning Sites

It may be necessary for students to provide their own transportation to and from a community workplace learning experience or internship with parent permission.

Driving Other Students

Students are NOT allowed to transport other students to work sites without parent permission for the rider and the driver. A "Request for Student Release and Parent Permission" form must be completed and signed by a parent/guardian before a student is allowed to drive off-site during school hours unless an authorized home school activity.

Driving and Parking Privileges:

It is a privilege to drive to and from CART and to use the CART parking lot. **Students driving to CART must display a CART parking permit** and must park in either the west parking lot directly in front of the school or in the north parking lot. ***A link to the Parking Permit Application will be shared with all students during the first two weeks of the school year.*** Parking Permits are offered at **NO COST** to students.

Parking Lot Expectations:

Please respect proper parking etiquette by parking correctly within the parking stall and abiding safe driving protocol when in CART's parking lot. Follow the flow of traffic and CART employee instructions while exiting the parking lot during release times. Students and parents/guardians are expected to be courteous and drive safely on school property and follow the **10-mph** speed limit. Any misconduct involving vehicles or students who are habitually tardy or truant, or have driving violations, may have their driving and parking privileges revoked by the CART administration and will be required to ride the bus or organize an alternate mode of transportation. Students are not permitted to be in the parking lot during class time unless they have permission from their teacher or the CART administration. ***See the image of parking lot flow on the last page.***

Financial Obligations

Textbooks, technology, and electronic equipment that students check out must be returned by the end of the current school year. If books or equipment are lost or damaged, the student is responsible for paying the cost of the item(s). Students will not be allowed to complete their final senior year graduation checkout of their home schools until all CART financial obligations have been settled.

Posting Flyers or Notices

Any notices informing students of activities that are happening within or outside of the CART curriculum must be approved by the administration prior to posting. Notices may only be posted in designated areas.

Public Displays of Affection

CART is a professional environment wherein public displays of affection are not acceptable. In business and in school, it is important for students to be aware of their surroundings and understand that affection, which attracts undue attention, does not send a message of professionalism. Students are encouraged to always use good judgment.

Present and On Time: Attendance

In person attendance is key to being successful at CART. The number one reason employees lose their jobs, according to our business partners, is due to a poor attendance record. Due to the nature of the CART program being three hours per day, it is important students attend every day.

CART is a Closed Campus

Once on campus, students may not leave without Parent/Guardian permission. Students wishing to leave CART campus for any reason other than school sponsored events need to have parent/**guardian permission and must sign out at the front desk**. Students excused to temporarily exit the building during instructional time **MUST have a pass from a staff member**. If a teacher grants permission for a student(s) to temporarily exit the building for any reason, they must fully complete the **Blue Permission to exit CART** slip. The Receptionist will validate that students leaving have a Blue Permission to exit slip.

Clearing CART Absences: Phone: 248-7400

Every attempt should be made to contact CART on the date of absence. All absences must also be cleared at **CART and with the home high school according to its procedures.**

Makeup Work Policy

Attendance at school every day is required by state law. When a parent/guardian calls CART to excuse an absence, students may be allowed to make up work under the following conditions:

1. Acceptable excused absences include: illness, medical appointments, court appearances, bereavement, school-related or co-curricular activities, and quarantine.
2. Students will receive one additional day to complete assignments for each consecutive day of absence.

Site-based (CART) Independent Study

Students that may be absent due to illness, vacation, or other family needs are encouraged to request Site-Based Independent Study to make up their work and absence. CART follows the Site-Based Independent Study procedure for each of our partner school districts; however, a separate independent study contract must be completed at CART for CART based work.

Appointments or Non-school Events

Students leaving CART during class time are required to have parent/guardian permission **OR** a parent/guardian listed on the emergency card must sign out the student at the front desk. Please call 248-7400 in advance to excuse your student during the time CART is in session.

Home School Activities

By signing the emergency card form, parents/guardians hereby give permission for their students to leave campus during school hours to return to the home school for any/all school-sanctioned events (rallies, co-curricular activities, school trips, etc.)

Tuancy

Students who are truant may be assigned consequences by both the home school and CART. Students will usually be placed on a CART Student Contract that clearly specifies the expectations regarding attendance and behavior. If the truancy/behavior continues, a student may lose their privilege to continue attending CART. Habitual truancies may result in a student losing the privilege to continue attending CART, like an employee losing his/her job due to poor attendance.

Visitors: See Safety Section

Tardy Policy:

CART policies mirror the work environment. Tardiness is not tolerated in the workplace. Students are expected to be in class on time and prepared for the activities of the day when the lab begins. When tardiness becomes a problem, students should expect to be held accountable. Students will usually be placed on a CART Student Contract that clearly specifies the expectations regarding attendance and behavior. If the tardiness/behavior continues, a student may lose their privilege to continue attending CART.

CART classes are full-year courses. Students attend for the entire year. Students will not be admitted for the second semester without completing the first semester unless prior administrative and teacher authorization has been granted. CART accepts new students if space is available, through the third week of the school year.

CART students are not allowed to transfer/return to their home school site after the third week of school unless the student loses their privileges to attend CART. Home school counselors will be consulted, and arrangements will be made regarding any students choosing to return or upon being recommended to return to their home schools.

CART juniors wishing to enroll for a second year at CART must be in good academic standing (maintaining at least a "C" grade in all four CART classes), have good attendance, and have a favorable recommendation from the current lab teachers. Students who are below a "C" grade in any CART course can be placed on "Probation". Students on probation are placed on a CART Student Contract, which outlines what they must do before the end of the year to secure their spot at CART for the second year. Parents/Guardians will be contacted so that all parties understand the requirements of the contract.

Walking Fieldtrips

With a completed and signed Emergency Card on file, students at CART may participate in walking excursions within a one-mile radius from campus when accompanied by faculty or staff, during school hours for specific school purposes. Examples of such walking excursions include project-related fieldwork. Other than faculty and/or staff chaperoned excursions, students must remain on campus during school hours.

Local/Regional School Related Fieldtrips:

Teachers will provide permission slips with the trip and transportation details. Permission slips must be signed by parents or guardians for students to attend.

Grades:

Grades (online reporting)

CART Teachers frequently update grades using the online grade reporting system, PowerSchool. Students' CART grades can be accessed through the CART website. Go to cart.org > Menu > Students > Current Students > Grades then log onto PowerSchool using the Username and Password provided to view the most up-to-date grades. Students and parents/guardians are provided with separate personal usernames and passwords to access the system.

Progress Reports

Progress and semester grade reporting at CART is consistent with the home school timelines. Prior to the end of each semester, parents/guardians and the student's home school counselor will be contacted if a student is failing or in danger of failing any CART course. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to contact teachers if they have any questions or concerns about their child's performance or progress. The best way to contact teachers is through e-mail. Teacher e-mail addresses can be obtained on the CART website (cart.org) on the CART Staff tab and scroll to Teachers.

Intervention/Contracts:

To assist students in getting back on track with attendance, behavior, or grades. Students may be given intervention in the form of a written contract. When necessary, the teachers and the CART counselor draft contracts. Teachers share contracts and expectations for improvement with students and parents/guardians.

Academic Integrity:

Cheating is the act of deception by which a student misleadingly demonstrates that he or she has mastered information on an academic exercise. Examples include, but are not limited to:

1. Copying or allowing another student to copy a test, paper, project, or performance.
2. Using unauthorized materials during a test or quiz – for example notes, formula lists, “cheat” sheets or electronic devices.
3. Taking a test for someone else or permitting someone to take a test for you.
4. Disseminating test materials. (ex. Texting a picture of a test)
5. **PLAGIARISM:** Plagiarism is taking someone else's words and claiming them as one's own. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Writing an essay or assignment that uses one person's work as a basis for another's. It may be word for word or changed somewhat, in order to appear original.
 - b. Copying sentences, phrases, or terminology from a formal source without quotation marks and/or without giving appropriate documented credit. A formal source is anything in printed form that is published in books, pamphlets, magazines, newspapers, etc., or posted on reliable internet websites.
 - c. Representing work as one's own artistic or scholarly works, such as musical compositions, computer programs, photographs, etc.
 - d. **The use of generative AI tools to complete course assignments and represent them as your own.**
 - e. Students who provide their work to others are at risk of their work being plagiarized.

How to AVOID Plagiarism

The following recommendations are advisable for all printed works, as well as for Internet use.

1. When taking notes, write down information about the source you are using right away.
2. When paraphrasing, read whole sections at a time, then look away from the text and put the ideas in your own words. List the source of this information in your bibliography.
3. If you want to use another writer's exact phrases or sentences, put them in quotation marks, give his or her name and page number in parenthetical citation, and include the source on your Works Cited page.
4. Do not cut and paste Internet material into a word processing program unless you include information about the source material along with it. Printed Internet material is not exempt from citation rules.

5. Any ideas or words that are not your own or are not common knowledge must be cited. This includes written or spoken material of any length, original theories, or ideas (even if not repeated word for word), facts, statistics, graphs, drawings, photos, lab results – basically any material you borrow from another source or other sources.
6. **ONLY use generative AI tools in the academic setting with the explicit and clear permission of each individual instructor, and only in the ways allowed by the instructor. (See teacher syllabus).**

Disciplinary action for Cheating or Plagiarism

All violations of cheating and/or plagiarism will result in an automatic “ZERO” on the assignment, test, or project. The teacher will contact the parent/guardian. Suspension may be considered for all cheating and plagiarism offenses.

Safety:

Front Door Entrance

The front doors of CART are locked during class hours and visitors must ring a bell for admittance.

Visitors: Raptor Visitor Management

All visitors, including parents/guardians, will be screened by the Raptor System. Raptor is a visitor management system that enhances school security by reading a visitor's driver's license (or other approved state issued ID), comparing information to a sex offender database to alert school administrators and local police if a match is found.

Emergency CARDS

Please keep Emergency Cards on file with the CART office updated with current contact information for parents/guardians and individuals to contact in case of an emergency. A parent or guardian must sign the emergency card in the appropriate place to authorize medical emergency treatment of their child.

Parent Notification of School Emergency

In the event of a school-wide emergency, the school will send out a phone or text message through CART Parent Square. It should also be noted that phones may not be answered during an emergency. Both school district's Emergency Action Teams will be notified and active in any emergency at CART.

Health Information:

Health and Medication

CART does not have an on-site nurse or health services aid. If students need to leave campus due to illness, a parent or guardian must contact the front office at 248-7400 to arrange for release.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION Ed Code 49408

A CART Administrator will contact parents/guardians in an emergency situation due to illness or injury. It is very important that CART has current parents/guardian/emergency contact information. If there is a change in your students' emergency contact information, please contact CART as soon as possible to update this information.

FIRST AID, ILLNESSES AND INJURIES

If a student is injured or ill at school, he/she/they will receive care and consideration by CART Teachers and Staff. The trained CART staff follow the Emergency First Aid Guidelines for Schools when providing first-aid care to students. Parents/guardians will be contacted about any serious injury or if the student is too ill to remain at school. Students will be released through the front office. The credentialed school nurse at the student's home school is available to consult with parents/guardians regarding health problems upon request, however, any injuries which occur at home should be cared for at home. Parents/guardians should follow-up with the credentialed school nurse at the student's home school regarding any extended illness or injuries that require needed care or accommodation while at school. When illness or injury is this severe, CART will consult with the home school nurse to make sure we are knowledgeable and able to safely assist the students while at CART.

Assistive Devices

Crutches, wheelchairs, walking boots/shoes, walkers, scooters and casts require a medical note. Following Injury/Illness form and physical/academic restrictions for students to attend school. Refer to Ed Code 48213.

NOTE: If a student requires crutches, a wheelchair, scooter, or walker to navigate the campus, the medical order must specify the assistive device being used. This ensures proper fitting, education on use, and student safety. Brace, elastic bandage, sling and splint require medical notes.

When to keep your child home due to illness:

1. Temperature 100.0 F or greater within 24 hours
2. Illness affecting child's ability to learn
3. Vomiting-forceful expelling of contents 2 times or more in 24 hours.
4. Diarrhea
5. Sore throat-difficulty breathing or swallowing, or continuous drooling
6. Cold symptoms-continuous cough, difficulty breathing, uncontrolled wheezing, excessive nasal drainage (excludes seasonal allergies)
7. Ear/Eye irritation-redness with drainage, difficulty seeing or hearing, injury, intolerable pain
 - Suspected pink eye-notify healthcare provider for evaluation and provide medical documentation to health office.
8. Rash-worsening, painful, drainage, not healing
9. Starting antibiotics within 24 hours for an illness

When your child may return to school due to illness:

1. Fever free for 24 hours without the use of a fever reducing medication(s) (Ex. Tylenol or Motrin).
2. Vomiting/Diarrhea-student is able to tolerate liquids and food and/or stools have improved.
3. Pink eye-medical note clearing student of disease or two doses of antibiotics to be given before returning to school.
4. Rashes, such as but not limited to impetigo, ringworm, scabies and pinworms-medical note required clearing your student of possible communicable disease or a medical note stating the diagnosis and that appropriate treatment was initiated. Notify CART.

COMMUNICABLE/INFECTIOUS DISEASE

CART refers to the California School Nurses Organization, Guidelines for Communicable Diseases and Common Conditions in the Educational Setting, along with guidance and direction from the Fresno County Department of Public Health (FCDPH). When necessary, communicable disease cases are reported to the FCDPH. When two or more cases of a communicable disease are reported in a classroom within 14 days of each other, a notification letter may be sent home from CART.

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL:

Ed Code 49423, 49480

All medications, even over-the-counter medication(s) (including Tylenol, Advil, cough drops, eye drops, essential oils, etc.) require a physician order and are reviewed by the credentialed school nurse. Medication orders must be updated at the **beginning of each school year**. The Medication at School form is available from the health office at the student's home school.

CA Education Code Section 49423 requires that any medications to be taken at school must be presented with:

- A written statement from the physician detailing the name of the medication, amount, method, and time medication is to be taken.
- A written statement from the parent/guardian indicating their consent for the school to assist the student in the matters set forth in the physician's statement
- Medication must be clearly labeled and sent to school in the original container from the pharmacy

Please note: Medication(s) brought to the main office without following the above guidelines will NOT be accepted or given at school. CART does not keep medication for general use.

FIELD TRIPS/CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

If your child requires medication to be given while off campus, a Medication at School form is required and must be turned into the home school health office and at CART for review at least two weeks prior to the event. Late medication orders and medications may not be accepted, if past the due date.

If your child has a medical condition (i.e.: Seizure, Syncope, etc.) and will be participating in an event that involves swimming will require medical clearance from their healthcare provider to participate.

EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION OF NALOXONE (NARCAN) NASAL SPRAY

California Education Code (EC) Section 49414.3 authorizes school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools to provide emergency naloxone or another opioid antagonist to school nurses or trained personnel who have

volunteered, and to use naloxone or another opioid antagonist to provide emergency medical aid to persons suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering, from an opioid overdose.

Behavior:

Dress Code

CART is a professional learning environment, and students are expected to dress in a way that reflects the standards of the workplace. Students must follow the dress code of their home high school, **and** any additional expectations set by CART in collaboration with business partners and project mentors. When attending field trips, visiting work sites, or participating in CART-sponsored events, students are expected to wear **professional attire appropriate to the setting**. Some labs may designate specific days or activities that require professional dress. ***If a student has difficulty meeting these expectations, families are encouraged to contact the teachers for support.*

CART Dress Code Guidelines

To maintain a safe, respectful, and professional environment, the following are **not permitted**:

- Clothing or jewelry that displays or promotes drugs, alcohol, pornography, profanity, or hate speech (including racist or discriminatory content).
- Headwear (including beanies) inside the building (unless for religious or medical reasons).
- Rubber beach shoes or flip-flops.
- Sleepwear, including pajama pants.
- Sheer, revealing, or excessively tight clothing.
- Bare midriffs (whether standing or sitting)
- Shoulder straps are less than two inches wide, off-the-shoulder tops, or halter tops.
- Shorts that are more than 6 inches above the knee.
- Skirts or dresses are more than 4 inches above the knee.

Additional Requirements:

- Closed-toe shoes are required in designated labs for safety.
- Apparel, hairstyles, cosmetics, or accessories that create a safety concern, draw undue attention, or disrupt the learning environment are not allowed.

Enforcement and Support

Students who are out of dress code may be asked to change or adjust their attire before returning to class. To avoid missing valuable experiences, **students may be offered a t-shirt or lab coat to wear** as an alternative to being removed from field trips, guest speaker, events, lab work, or lab room activities.

Repeated dress code violations will be reported to students' home high schools through Altas (FUSD) or Q (CUSD). Continued non-compliance may result in the student being placed on a CART behavioral contract and could lead to the loss of the privilege to continue attending CART.

Teachers and administration will monitor compliance, and discretion rests with CART administration. If needed, staff may contact families or schedule conferences to discuss concerns.

Also, apparel, hairstyles, cosmetics, or jewelry, even if not specifically mentioned, which creates a safety concern, draws undue attention to the wearer, or intends to distract from the educational process, is prohibited.

Technology Use: Netiquette (Network Etiquette)

Students and parents/guardians are responsible for reading the terms of the Internet/Network/Technology Equipment–Acceptable Use Policy. **Both the student and parents/guardians must sign the Internet Permission and Equipment Use Agreement prior to the student being allowed access to any technology at CART.** Inappropriate behavior includes, but is not limited to, sharing computer usernames or passwords, using equipment other than what is assigned to the student, downloading anything onto a CART computer (including games and music), accessing inappropriate websites, or surfing the internet for items not related to a school project during class time.

Failure to follow the Internet/Network/Technology Equipment Acceptable Use Policy may result in the suspension of technology privileges, suspension from school, or loss of privilege to continue attending CART.

Electronic Devices

Electronic devices when visible or in use—including cell phones, smart watches, AI or Virtual Smart Glasses/Goggles, Bluetooth earbuds or headsets, handheld gaming consoles, and similar technology—are not permitted during instructional time unless explicitly authorized by a teacher for educational purposes. Bringing more than one device to circumvent this policy is prohibited.

- In some labs, teachers may collect and store student phones in locked cases during both class and break times to minimize distractions and protect valuable instructional time. (Please do not send unused phones to store.)
- Devices used inappropriately may be confiscated. Repeated violations will require parents or guardians to retrieve the device from the front office and will be recorded on the student's record (FUSD) or Q (CUSD). **Please note:** CART assumes no responsibility for lost, stolen, or damaged confiscated items. Continued non-compliance may result in a student behavior contract.
- Exceptions may include students with a specification in their 504 Plan or health-related needs outlined in a Student Health Plan and approved CART events (e.g., CARTival)

Theft or vandalism of CART Property

CART emulates the work environment, and students have access to expensive equipment provided by public monies. Theft and/or destruction of CART property will result in student removal from the CART program. The student will be subject to the discipline policies of his/her district and may include action by the police department.

Students and their parents will be responsible for replacing and/or compensation for any items stolen or damaged by the student. This includes equipment checked out by the student and never returned.

Conduct Consequences

CART adheres to the CA Education Code 48900 regarding grounds for suspension and expulsion. If a student is found to have committed a Zero Tolerance Violation, they will lose their privilege to continue attending CART.

Law Enforcement Notification

Section 48902 of the California Education Code requires school administration to notify law enforcement when a student is considered for suspension or considered for expulsion, prior to the suspension, when the reason for such consideration may be in violation of Section 245 of the Penal Code.

Section 245 of the California Penal Code pertains to assaults or attempted assaults with a deadly weapon or by any means of force likely to produce bodily injury.

Students currently in attendance at an alternative education high school are subject to review by the administration at that school and CART before they can apply to attend CART.

Zero Tolerance Policy: (Acknowledge with signature on Emergency CARD)

The Governing Boards of the participating districts have declared that the schools operated by these Districts have a Zero Tolerance Policy applicable to sexual assault or battery; battery; the sale, possession or furnishing of a firearm; possession of a knife; possession of a dangerous object; possession of an explosive or explosive devices; the sale, possession or furnishing of controlled substances, alcohol or any other form of intoxicant; being under the influence of a controlled substance, alcohol or any other form of intoxicant; vandalism where property damage exceeds \$100; repeated mutual combat; robbery or extortion; participating in gang motivated intimidation; hate motivated behavior constituting a statutory violation and terroristic threats and assault on or threatening of school staff.

Suspension:

Any student who commits one of these offenses shall be immediately suspended by the principal and recommended for expulsion from their home district. Any student who commits one of these offenses will lose their opportunity to continue to attend CART.

All acts of physical violence, possession or use of weapons or Health and Safety Code violations will be recorded for each pupil on their Mandatory Interim Record including information of suspensions and expulsions. Such records will be expunged upon graduation, or by petition.

For purposes of this policy, definitions of terms used will be as defined in the California Education Code, Penal Code, Health and Safety Code, and Regulations of the State Fire Marshal where applicable. An object used in a threatening manner shall be considered a weapon even if its normal use is not as a weapon.

Any student who has been suspended for any of these violations either at CART or the home school shall be deemed suspended for both CART and the home school.

In certain cases of a suspendable offense, where the safety of the students and staff is compromised, a student may lose their privilege to remain at CART.

In every case in which a pupil violates a provision of the Penal Code or the Health and Safety Code referenced by this policy, the student will be taken into custody and cited or taken to juvenile detention facility or the county jail.

Weapons:

Guns, knives, explosives, or weapons of any type are not permitted in the school, on the campus, or at any off or on campus school function. Violations can lead to suspension or in some cases an expulsion hearing.

Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco Products: (including any type of vaping device)

Drugs, alcohol, and smoking are prohibited in the school, on the campus, or at any off or on campus school function. Violations can lead to further disciplinary action.

Harassment Policy

CART is committed to creating a safe and caring environment for all students. It is expected that we will treat each other with respect, and we will not tolerate bullying and intimidation based on disability, gender, nationality, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. CART will not tolerate hate, violence, sexual harassment, or bullying and will make the awareness of, and the reporting process, a part of the education of all students attending CART. If a student and/or their parents/guardians believe they have been subjected to any one of these actions, they should report it immediately to a CART faculty member. When any one of these types of incidents are reported, the actions taken will be designed to create a learning experience and ensure that the prohibition against this type of harassment or intimidation is enforced. The emphasis will be on providing support for the student who has been harassed as well as supporting the student harassing by working with them to modify their behavior.

Title IX

CART strongly encourages students who feel that they are being or have been sexually harassed on school grounds or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity by another student or an adult, or who have experienced off-campus sexual harassment that has a continuing effect on campus, to immediately contact their teacher, the principal, the district's Title IX Coordinator, or any other available school employee. Any employee who receives a report or observes an incident of sexual harassment shall notify the Title IX Coordinator.

An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer Notice of Non-Discrimination

The Center for Advanced Research and Technology prohibits discrimination, intimidation, harassment (including sexual harassment) or bullying based on a person's actual or perceived ancestry, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, immigration status, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or association with a person or a group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. For questions or complaints, contact: Chief Executive Officer/Principal- Rick Watson or Dean of Curriculum and Instruction- Staci Bynum. 559-248-7400. rickwatson@cart.org; stacibynum@cart.org 2555 Clovis Ave Clovis CA 93612.

CART Academic Calendar 2025-26

JUL 25						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30	31		

Aug-25						
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31						

Sep-25						
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Oct-25						
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Nov-25						
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Dec-25						
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28	29	30	31			

Jan-26						
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Feb-26						
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Mar-26						
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29	30	31				

Apr-26						
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May-26						
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31						

Jun-26						
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

 CART Start/End Dates
 Vacations/Holidays
 Professional Development
 (No School for Students)

 Back to School Night
 CART Showcase

Home School Start Dates
 CUSD- August 18, 2025
 FUSD- August 18, 2025

 CART Family Information Nights
 Senior Awards Night

Home School Winter Break Dates
 CUSD- December 22, 2025- January 5, 2026
 FUSD- December 22, 2025- January 9, 2026

 Celebration of Student Success
 Last Day-Seniors





The Center for Advanced Research and Technology
2555 Clovis Avenue
Clovis, CA 93612
(559) 248-7400